GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4564
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2016
Conservation of Asiatic Lions
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

a)whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for special project for the conservation of Asiatic Lions in Gir Forest;

b)if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon along with the present status thereof;

c)whether the Government has allocated funds for the last three years and the current year;

d)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

e)the other efforts made by the Government to protect and preserve Asiatic lions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
MINISTRY OF HOUSING &URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) and (b): A project proposal with the estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore was submitted by the Government of Gujarat in the year 2014 for financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme − Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats. However, required funds could not be released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India in view of limited funds available in the Ministry.

(c) and (d): During the last three years, funds were released by the Central Government to Gujarat under the scheme Long Term Conservation of Asiatic Lions (Thirteen Finance Commission Grants). Under the scheme Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project (Gir Learning Centre), funds were released during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.

(e): In addition, sufficient funds are being allocated by the State Government for protection and preservation of Asiatic Lions in Gujarat. Income generated from the tourism activities in Gir Forest is also utilized for the purpose.